GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4384
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2000
FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMMES
RAMJI LAL SUMAN;ZORA SINGH MANN

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the family planning programme in the country has not been successful as per the prescribed target fixed in this regard;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government propose to re-consider the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) & (b) The result of the Sample Registration System reveal that the Birth Rate in the country had declined to 26.5 in 1998 from 40.8 in 1951; the total Fertility Rate; which was 6.0 in 1951 declined to 3.3 in 1997 and the natural growth rate of population has come down to 1.75% during the year 1998. This decline in birth rate has been observed despite death rate declining more sharply and life expectancy at birth increasing almost to double since independence due to improved health services in the country.

(c) to (e) Government has adopted a National Population Policy in February, 2000 which provides for holistic approach for achieving population stabilisation in the country.

The Policy affirms the commitment of Government towards voluntary and informed choice and consent of citizens while availing of reproductive health care services, and continuation of the target free approach in administering family planning services.